SHRI ALI ANWAR: What about weavers' loans?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, in the Budget Speech, I have set out a cluster approach to weavers and we have provided a lot of money for developing these clusers for weavers. There is this question about weavers cooperative societies and loans to these societies. This is engaging the attention of the Ministry of Textiles. When they come up with a proposal, it wil receive my sympathetic consideration.

Sir, Mr. Thakur had raised a question. *(Interruptions)* As I understood it, he pointed out some technical difficulty in the case of merger of two banks. Sir, last year, we gave the benefit of the merger to the two banks. He is pointing out some technical difficulty and has said that the membership should remain common. I have not applied my mind to it. Now that he has raised it, let me look into it and come back here. *(Interruptions).*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Minister to move the Bill. *(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister to move the Appropriation Bill.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, he did not mention about the SC/ST... *(Interruptions)* It is very vital. I need a clarification, Sir.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I have already said that a large amount of money has been outlayed for programmes elating to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; schools are being established; schoolarship are being given. We ensure that in the flagship programmes the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries receive a significant part or a significant component. If there are specific issues relating to any specific programme that is being administered by a Ministry or a department of the Government of India, I am sure hon. Member knows how to put a question to the Minister concerned.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: I know that, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: What is the State-wise break-up so far as the provision for farmers loan waiver is concerned?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have already said that the banks have been requested to give the data to the NABARD and RBI by the 14th of March. The data, after they have examined it, will come to the Government by the 20th of March. Then we will finalise the scheme. Once we receive the data and fanalise the scheme, we will know the break-up amongst the various States. At this moment, I can only give you an overall figure of about Rs. 60,000 crores. I cannot give the break-up.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Please move the Appropriation Bill.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Appropriation (vote on Account) Bill, 2008

And

The Appropriation Bill, 2008

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I move:

That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2008-09, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Sir, I also move:

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2007-08, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The questions were proposed.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, I have a small submission. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Supplementary List of Business has been circulated just now, and there it has been stated that the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Billl, 2008 and the Appropriation Bill, 2008 will be taken up after the reply to the discussion on the Budget, and get it passed.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: What is this?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; he is submitting it to the Chair.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, please listen to me. The point is, don't make it a precedent. You have come up with this urgently, and you want to pass it, get is passed, because all the Members support you on this. My only request is, don't make it a precedent.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I agree; I agree. This should have been circulated on Friday. ...*(Interrutions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall put first the motion regarding consideration of the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2008 to vote.

The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2008-09, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause, 1 the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the motion regarding consideration of the Appropriation Bill, 2008 to vote.

The question is:

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2007-08, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The Motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2008

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constituton (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Tribes in the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Karnataka Budget will be taken up after the lunch hour. The House is adjourned for lunch for one hour.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty-four minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at fifty-four minutes past two of the clock. MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

THE BUDGET (KARNATAKA), 2008-09

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: General discussion on the Budget (Karnataka). Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, if Narayanasamyji is taken out of the House, we will have a smooth debate and...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have not heard it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: He is Whip and he is doing his duty. I am happy about it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

3.00 P.M.

Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Vote on Account Budget of Karnataka. In the first instance I would like to ask the Finance Minister why Vote on Account for six months, why not three months. Sir, there is an all round impression that there is a *mala fide* intention behind this move because the elections are due in the State of Karnataka and they are being postponed on one excuse or another. Sir, the essence of the democracy, as you are aware, is that the people should be allowed to rule by themselves. But here the Centre for whatever reason is trying to rule through backdoor. That is not a good thing for the country Sir, thanks to the better management of economy by the previous Government in office in